

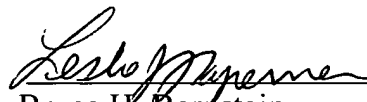
REMARKS

By the above amendment, claim 3 has been amended and so as to delete multiple dependency, and claim 5, which corresponds to amended claim 3 but depends from claim 2, has been added. Also by the above amendment, the specification will have been amended and the abstract will have been replaced. No new matter has been entered. Claims 1-5 are presently pending in the present application for consideration by the Examiner.

Applicant notes that this amendment is being presented to remove a multiple claim dependency, and not to limit or narrow any of the claims.

If there should be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,  
M. MAKINO et al.

  
Bruce H. Bernstein  
Reg. No. 29,027

*Reg. No. 33,329*

December 9, 2003  
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.  
1950 Roland Clarke Place  
Reston, VA 20191  
(703) 716-1191